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## NOTES AND NEWS.

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### NOTES.

#### THE THIRTEENTH INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CONGRESS.

The thirteenth International Congress of Medicine will be held at Paris, 2-9 August, 1900. The president is M. Lannelongue, rue François 3; the general secretary, M. Chauffard, rue Saint-Guillaume 21; and the general treasurer, M. Duflocq, rue Miromesnil 64, Paris. The Congress will be divided into five sections: biological sciences, medical sciences, surgical sciences, obstetrics and gynecology, public medicine,—the first two offering features of special interest to psychologists. Information concerning conditions of membership, presentation of papers, etc., may be obtained from Dr. H. B. Jacobs, secretary of the American National Committee, 3 West Franklin Street, Baltimore, Md.

#### A NEW METHOD IN THE STUDY OF OPTICAL ILLUSIONS.

We have received, too late for review, an important paper by Dr. H. Stadelmann of Wuerzburg, which presents a new method for the classification of optical illusions. It will be remembered that Witasek (*Zeits. f. Psych.*, xix, 81) divides all current theories of optical illusion into two great groups,—perception theories and judgment theories. According to the former, we 'see' wrongly; according to the latter we see rightly, but judge incorrectly as to what we have perceived. Dr. Stadelmann puts his subjects in the somnambulistic state, and inhibits by suggestion the influence of the *Trugmotive* in a given illusion-figure: *e. g.*, the oblique lines in the Mueller-Lyer parallels. If the illusion is perceptive, he argues, this removal of the *Trugmotive* will leave the illusion intact when the subject is confronted with the figure in the waking state; if the illusion is, on the other hand, a matter of associated ideas or of judgment, then the inhibitory suggestion will kill the illusion. He finds that the illusion persists, after as before; and so concludes (with Witasek) that the perception theories are preferable to such interpretations as that offered by Lipps. The paper appears in the *Festschrift der phys.-med. Gesellschaft*, Wuerzburg, 1899.

#### THE NEED OF ANOTHER PSYCHOLOGICAL JOURNAL.

It would appear at first sight, that the American public is well enough supplied with psychological magazines. Besides the *American Journal of Psychology*, a quarterly, and the *Psychological Review*, a bi-monthly journal, we have *Science*, a weekly devoted to the interests of science at large, and containing a fair proportion of psychological matter, and various philosophical magazines, all opening their pages more or less readily to articles of psychological tenor. Nevertheless, I venture to think that there is room for a psychological journal of a type different from any and all of these: a journal which shall approximate, as does, *e. g.*, the *Open Court*, more to the newspaper form, and which shall serve, somewhat as the *Intermédiaire* of M. Binet was intended to do, as a means of communication between students of

psychology, amateurs interested in psychological problems, and makers of psychological instruments. The contents of such a journal would consist, quite largely, of Discussions, the replies and counter-replies to criticisms,—the Corrections and Explanations,—that are necessitated by hasty reviewing or by honest misunderstanding, and that now occupy too conspicuous a place in pages that were better filled by constructive articles. The 'preliminary notice' might also be banished from the more serious magazines to the columns of the new journal; there might be interchange of question and answer between those who are less and more favorably situated with regard to library facilities; new apparatus, wherever described, might be redescribed and figured; European appreciations of American work might be published more quickly and less formally than is now possible; the barriers separating school from school, and laboratory from laboratory, might be, at least to some extent, broken down, and a common psychological atmosphere breathed by all workers in the science. Many a scientific controversy would dissolve into nothingness, could it be thoroughly threshed out by free and informal discussion; and many a dispute is perpetuated by the present conditions of publication.

I believe, then, that there is a place for a monthly paper or journal, of the kind outlined, and that it would be well worth the while of some one or more of our younger psychologists, not as yet hampered by other editorial duties, to undertake it. Advertisements ought to go far towards making such a journal self-supporting from the outset.

E. B. T.

#### NEWS.

Miss L. J. Martin has been appointed acting assistant professor of psychology at Stanford University.

An International Congress of Ethnology will be held at Paris, August 26 to September 1. One of the seven sections will be devoted to ethnographical psychology.

The eighth annual meeting of the American Psychological Association was held at New Haven, Dec. 27-29. The plan of meeting in two sections (an experimental and a philosophical), tried for the first time at this meeting, worked satisfactorily, though many members would have been glad to have been present in both sections at the same time. The feeling was general that time should not be given to sectional meetings to the detriment of the general meetings of the Association; and there seemed little desire to take any action that might lead to an actual division of the Association.

Besides going through the extended programme of papers, the following business was transacted. The officers were elected: President, Prof. Joseph Jastrow; members of the Council for three years, Prof. W. L. Bryan and Prof. George T. Ladd. Prof. Livingston Farrand remains Secretary and Treasurer, having been elected for three years. A large number of new members were also voted in. By an informal vote the Association expressed its willingness to meet in Chicago in 1901, should it at that time seem advisable to do so. Professors Bryan and Lindley, of the University of Indiana, were voted fifty dollars from the funds of the Association for the furtherance of their investigations upon the interesting mathematical prodigy whose skill they had demonstrated before the Association. The customary acknowledgments, also, were voted to Yale University and the members of its philosophical department—the hosts of the Association on this occasion.

The address of the outgoing President, Professor Dewey, will be published in the *Psychological Review* for March.

We learn from *Science* that the chair of Psychology at Columbia University has been endowed by Mr. J. D. Rockefeller with the sum of \$100,000.

The Psychological Laboratory of Columbia University has recently undergone extension; it now consists of a series of 19 rooms,—a number reached heretofore only by Professor Wundt's Institute at Leipzig.

In *Nature* of Jan. 4 appears a protest by Professor Baldwin against the report of the Committee of the Royal Society Catalogue of Scientific Literature, in which the recommendation is made that psychology be classed under physiology, that the schedule submitted by Mr. G. F. Stout be cut up, and that fractions of it be inserted where place can be found for them under physiological headings. We are glad to endorse to the full the protest thus made against a suggestion which is both unwise and unjust.

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*Erratum:* In foot note 1, page 191, for "Published in 1852 in Cincinnati" read "Published in London 1844." It may also be added that though the book in question (*Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation*) went through many editions anonymously it is now known to have been the work of Robert Chambers, publisher and litterateur, of Edinburgh.

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#### BOOKS RECEIVED.

CHRISTISON, J. SANDERSON. Brain in relation to mind. Published by the Author, Chicago, 1899. pp. 143. Price, \$1.25.

———. Crime and criminals. Published by the Author, Chicago, 1899. pp. 177. Price, \$1.25.

LE DANTEC, FELIX. Lamarckiens et Darwiniens, discussion de quelques théories sur la formation des espèces. Félix Alcan, Paris, 1899. pp. 192. Price, Fcs. 2.50.

DESCARTES, RENÉ. Discourse on method. Veitch's Translation (*Religion of Science Library*). Open Court Pub. Co., Chicago, 1899. pp. 87. Price, 25 cts.

DURAND, J. P. Nouvelles recherches sur l'esthétique et la morale. Félix Alcan, Paris, 1900. pp. 275. Price, Fcs. 5.

FÉRÉ, CH. L'instinct sexuel, évolution et dissolution. Félix Alcan, Paris, 1899. pp. 346. Price, Fcs. 4.

FERRIÈRE, EMILE. La doctrine de Spinoza exposée et commentée à la lumière des faits scientifiques. Félix Alcan, Paris, 1899. pp. 357. Price, Fcs. 3.50.

FULLERTON, GEORGE STUART. On Spinozistic immortality. (Publications of the University of Pennsylvania, Series in Philosophy, No. 3.) Ginn & Co., Boston, 1899. pp. 154.

GARVIE, ALFRED E. The Ritschlian Theology, critical and constructive. An exposition and an estimate. Imported by Charles Scribner's Sons, N. Y., (T. & T. Clark, Edinburgh,) 1899. pp. 400. Price, \$3.00—net.

Human Nature, Its principles and the principles of physiognomy. By Physicist. J. and A. Churchill, London, Part I, 1897. pp. 128. Paper, 2 shillings; Part II, 1899. pp. 175. Price, 2s. 6d.

- Jahresbericht ueber die Leistungen und Fortschritte auf dem Gebiete der Neurologie u. Psychiatrie. Jahrgang 2, 1898. S. Karger, Berlin, 1899. pp. 1406. Price, 32 marks.
- JANES, EMILY (Editor). The Englishwoman's year book and directory, 1900. Adam & Charles Black, London, 1900. pp. 340.
- JOHNSTON, CHARLES. The memory of past births. The Metaphysical Publishing Co., N. Y., 1899. pp. 50. Price, 25 cents.
- LOOMIS, ERNEST. Seven essays on the subject of force-massing methods. Showing how to use occult forces, etc., in all business and art. Ernest Loomis, Chicago, 1899. pp. 134 + 22. Price, \$1.25.
- NAVILLE, ERNEST. Les philosophies négatives. Félix Alcan, Paris, 1900. pp. 263. Price, Fcs. 5.
- OPPENHEIM, H. Nervenleiden und Erziehung. S. Karger, Berlin, 1899. pp. 56. Price, 1.20 marks.
- PETZOLDT, JOSEPH. Einführung in die Philosophie der reinen Erfahrung. Erster Band. Die Bestimmtheit der Seele. B. G. Teubner, Leipzig, 1900. pp. 356. Price, 8 marks.
- RIBOT, TH. The evolution of general ideas. Trans. by Frances A. Welby. Open Court Pub. Co., Chicago, 1899. pp. 231. Price, \$1.25.
- ROWE, STUART H. The physical nature of the child and how to study it. The Macmillan Co., N. Y., 1899. pp. 207. Price, \$1.00.
- STARBUCK, EDWIN DILLER. The psychology of religion. An empirical study of the growth of religious consciousness. With a preface by William James. Contemporary science series. Walter Scott, Limited, London, 1899. pp. 423. Price, 6 shillings.
- WINDELBAND, W. History of ancient philosophy. Authorized translation by Herbert Ernest Cushman. From the second German edition. Charles Scribner's Sons, N. Y., 1899. pp. 393. Price, \$2.00.
- WOOD, HENRY. The political economy of natural law. Lee & Shepard, Boston, 1899. pp. 305. Price, in paper, 50 cts.
- WOOD, HENRY. Ideal suggestion through mental photography. Lee & Shepard, Boston, 1899. pp. 163. Price, in paper, 50 cts.